

held local, a large part of the time they "repeatedly find abundant opportunity to multiply rapidly, invade the blood and gain lodgment in distant structures." All this would lead to the conclusion that chronic foci from which infection may spread should be removed. And the fact that systemic sequels may develop insidiously and become diagnosable only in their advanced stages, immeasurably strengthens the conclusion. But Dr. Duke draws no such conclusion. Herein lies the weakness of his volume. Having emphasized the various systemic ills which anyone with devitalized teeth may be heir to and having indicated that dentistry in the future must have as one of its chief aims the prevention and cure of disease, he allows that the problem of the correct treatment of devitalized teeth is still an open one. All this seems to lack the courage that should be born of conviction. Positive cultures of pathogenic micro-organisms isolated from the root ends of dead teeth seem to mean little to Dr. Duke. He knows that a lesion metastatic to a dead tooth may develop insidiously, but he would do nothing until that lesion has reached that advanced stage at which it is diagnosable. Two other points should be emphasized: (1) The improvement in general health following the conservative method of treating dead teeth will be found to be merely temporary. "Conservative means" which do not eradicate streptococcal foci will result in no permanent improvement. (2) Negative roentgenograms are not positive evidence of a lack of dental sepsis. Negative roentgenograms are of little value; positive ones never show more than two-thirds of the bone disintegration that is found during the dissection operation. Cultures from the ends of dead roots secured during the dissection operation are always positive. Dr. Duke's volume, then, presents valuable information about systemic diseases resulting from oral sepsis; but it seems not only to tolerate, but even recommends the methods of treatment which have been largely responsible for systemic disease. J. N.

Medical Vocabulary. By Joseph Marie. Philadelphia: P. Blakinston's Son & Co. 1918. Price: 50 cents net.

While many of us can speak French with a fair chance of having a Frenchman understand us, and a few of us can speak a little Italian, it is hardly probable that any of us have more than a meagre knowledge of medical terms in these languages. To supply this very obvious lack, this little Medical Vocabulary will fill a long-felt want and, while military activities may cease for the time being, medical activities no doubt will continue for an indefinite period. Italians will continue to have "un infreddatura nel capo" or a cold in the head, while the French, after association with American soldiers will undoubtedly develop a "penchant" for "pistache de terre," or the famous American peanut. I recommend that every soldier immediately purchase one of these books. S. P.

Anatomy of the Human Body. By Henry Gray, F. R. S., Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons; Lecturer on Anatomy at St. George's Hospital Medical School. London: Twentieth edition, thoroughly revised and re-edited. Lea & Febiger. 1918. Cloth, \$7.50; leather, \$9.00.

The works of Hippocrates and Galen were to the ancients what Gray's Anatomy is to the modern medical student. It has run through twenty editions and now stands as a monumental work on this most essential subject. The present edition has been thoroughly revised by Warren H. Lewis, Professor of Physiological Anatomy at Johns Hopkins University, and his services have added greatly to the value of the work. It stands pre-eminently the best of all round text-books in anatomy in any language. S. P.

Quarterly Cumulative Index to Current Medical Literature. Is published by the American Med-

ical Association the middle of April, July, October and January. The April number indexes the journals issued during January, February and March; the July number contains in one alphabet references to journals published during April, May and June, with the addition of all that appeared in the April issue of The Index. Thus the July issue supersedes the April, and similarly the October issue supersedes the July. Each quarterly number is an inclusive index to the literature of the year up to the month of publication. The January issue is an index to the literature of the preceding year and is bound in cloth for permanent preservation.

Authors and subjects are arranged in one alphabet on a true dictionary plan. At no time during the year is it necessary to consult more than one alphabet to learn what articles have been written by a certain author during the year, or what articles have been written on a given subject during the year. Thus every quarter the literature of the year is brought up-to-date and made accessible for ready reference. S. P.

Military Hygiene and Sanitation. By Frank R. Keefer, Colonel, Medical Corps, United States Army; formerly Professor of Military Hygiene, United States Military Academy, West Point. Second edition, reset. 12 mo. of 340 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1918. Cloth, \$1.75 net.

The second edition of Colonel Keefer's text-book appears at a time when this subject is better understood and appreciated by everyone. Most of us are directly interested in the welfare of some particular individual who is at this time being governed by the rules laid down in this text-book. The present edition contains many things which have been brought out by the military experiences of the past four years, and subjects are dealt with which naturally could not be covered in the first edition, especially those relating to trench life. To anyone interested in the proper hygienic care of men living under unnatural and temporary conditions, this book will be of great value, particularly as it is written in a style easily understood by those who have not had a technical medical training, yet who realize the value of the rules of health. It would be a good text-book for high schools, agricultural colleges, and institutions devoted to mining and civil engineering. G. H. R.

Correspondence

INFLUENZA PREVENTION.

Subject: Influenza Epidemic.

To the Editor:—In view of the present serious epidemic which is sweeping over the country, the Volunteer Medical Service Corps earnestly invites your attention to the following important action:

Urge upon the members of the Volunteer Medical Service Corps that they instruct families under their care to guard against the epidemic by: Thorough cleanliness of houses, premises, clothing, utensils, and personal cleanliness. Avoid stirring up dust. Wash, scrub, flush, sprinkle, and use soap and water thoroughly. Gargle and spray the nose and throat with an alkaline antiseptic fluid frequently. Co-operate at once to the fullest extent with the local, state, and national Board of Health. Urge and co-operate in preparing towns and cities for the epidemic by establishing emergency hospitals in suitable buildings, by districting communities, and apportioning or dividing medical forces comprising men and women physicians and nurses so that no portion of the community is without medical care. Circulate as thoroughly as possible and explain to the public the warning and directions printed by the United States Public Health Service and by local health authorities. Urge the importance of